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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Bulgaria

REPORT NO.

25X1A

SUBJECT

Bozhurishte Airfield

DATE DISTR.

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REFERENCES

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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Bozhurishte airfield (N 42-45, E 23-12), 4000 x 2,000 meters in size, is located 30 kilometers west of Sofia, near the Sofia-Bozhurishte railroad and road. There are second-growth trees about the field, through which a road connects with the main highway. The field is grass-grown on very hard ground, and has no obstacles. The prevailing wind is southwest to northeast.

2. The following buildings are located at the airfield:

- a. A 3-story staff building, 40 x 135 meters in size, partly used as quarters;
- b. A 3-story barracks for enlisted men, 40 x 122 meters in size; and
- c. Three concrete hangars, each 50 x 100 meters in size.

Underground gasoline tanks are located at the western edge of the airfield. Radio and weather stations are in the staff building, but there is no radar.

3. A Bulgarian fighter squadron is stationed at Bozhurishte airfield. The squadron is composed as follows:

- a. Commander and staff, 65 men;
- b. A ground company, 105-110 men, commanded by Lieutenant MELIKOV, about 26 years old;
- c. The 1 Company, 32 men, with 9 YAK-9 planes;
- d. The 2 Company, 35 men, with 9 YAK-9 planes; and

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e. The 3 Company, 30 men, with 9 YAK-9 planes.

The squadron has two YAK-9s in reserve, and two LI-2s and four PO-2s for training. The unit is new and has suffered high accidental losses. The auto park consists of the following vehicles:

a. Five Soviet personnel carriers;

b. Sixteen 3-ton trucks; and

c. Five tank trucks.

4. Bozhurishte and Lovech both have factories producing spare parts for planes.

1. Comment: The Deutsche Heereskarte locates Bozhurishte airfield 10 kilometers northwest of Sofia.

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